GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COAL AND MINES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1464
ANSWERED ON:16.07.2004
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY OF INDIA - EARTHQUAKE
Athawale Shri Ramdas

Will the Minister of COAL AND MINES be pleased to state:

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(a) whether the Government has conducted any study to ensure the protection of life and property in cities and rural areas of the country during the earthquake especially after the devastating earthquake in Gujarat; (

(b) if so, the details thereof; (

(c) the amount provided for Geological Survey of India;

(d) whether the Geological Survey of India has sought the assistance of the experts in this field from all over the world; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL AND MINES(DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO)

(a) & (b) : Yes, Sir. Seismic microzonation of cities and urban agglomerations have been undertaken by Geological Survey of India. Seismic microzonation is subdivision of a region into zones that have relatively similar exposure to various earthquake-related effects. Accounting for such effects or site-response has become a tool of earthquake hazard reduction programme. The inputs from seismic microzonation maps can effectively be used for planning safe design or structures. GSI has intensified the task of microzonation after the devastating earthquake of Gujarat. Earthquakes cannot be prevented but threat to life and property in the event of earthquake can be minimized by taking planned mitigation measures.

Seismic microzonation of Jabalpur, Delhi, Dehradun, Guwahati, Ahmedabad, Vishakhapatnam, Shillong and Mumbai is in different stages of completion.

(c) : A total of Rs.9.00 crores has been provided to GSI for study of earthquake and protection of life & property specially after the Gujarat earthquake.

(d) & (e) : As per the recommendations of the `71st Department Related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Industry` on Demands for Grants - Department of Mines, GSI has already approached several reputed foreign organizations/institutions like United States Geological Survey (USGS), Reston, USA, ITC, The Netherlands, Geological Survey of Japan (GSJ), Japan and GFZ Solid Earth Physics and Disaster Research, Potsdam, Germany to share the expertise on earthquake related studies and for collaborative work.